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LETTER DATED 29 APRIL 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

You are aware that Libya has never at any time endangered international peace and security. Nevertheless, France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America have induced the Security Council to impose sanctions on the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter as set forth in resolution 748 (1992), in blatant disregard of the legal nature of the problem raised and of Libya's efforts. In spite of the legal problems raised by national legislations and international covenants, Libya showed complete flexibility and a positive spirit and put forward numerous initiatives and proposals to resolve the crisis between it and the three States, none of them incompatible with the norms of international law, the United Nations Charter or national sovereignty.

From the beginning of the implementation of Security Council resolution 748 (1992), my country has been exposed to many negative effects and complications arising from the implementation of the aerial embargo measures in particular and the resultant overwhelming damage and multiple economic and social problems. It draws attention here specifically to the damage done to the health sector, where there is a lack of vital antidotes, which has led to the spread of cases of infectious diseases, such as measles, among schoolchildren and also a lack of vaccines and drugs for female and child diseases, because their procurement requires the use of rapid air transport and also refrigeration facilities to prevent spoilage.

Furthermore, the imposition of the aerial embargo has also given rise to other problems that, with their complications are difficult to overcome such as those arising from the use of marine and land transport and those arising from the impossibility of ensuring speedy transport abroad for patients under treatment, particularly urgent cases and victims of traffic accidents. Such occurrences are greatly increasing since land transport has become the main method since the resolution went into effect.

We do not believe that the Security Council and the international community as a whole can ignore the problems that have emerged as a result of the imposition of the aerial embargo on the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and they must adopt a position to cope with the negative impact thereof, which is disastrous at the human level.

In conclusion, I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali A. ELHOUDEIRI
Permanent Representative